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Informational Item #33
July, 1960

NUMBERS OF COLLEGIATE INSTITUTIONS IN RELATION TO AREA AND POPULATION, WISCONSIN COMPARED WITH OTHER STATES

The Joint Staff has previously reported data indicating that a very high proportion of the high school graduates in Wisconsin live within 40 miles of a public two- or four-year liberal arts collegiate opportunity. The actual percentage for 1957 was ninety-one.

The data presented in this informational item relates the number of collegiate institutions to the total population of the state and to the total area of the state. Comparisons are made with certain other states of the union.

The data in Table I lists the numbers of institutions of various types in Wisconsin and in the other states. Since the county teachers colleges of Wisconsin are unique in the nation they have been listed separately. The total number of two- and four-year public collegiate institutions in Wisconsin is only exceeded by the twenty-three institutions in Michigan among the states in the North Central region.

In Table II the total area in the state has been divided by the total number of institutions and the total population of the state has been divided by the total number of institutions. In determining the number of institutions, only those separate professional schools which admit freshmen were used. One of the separate professional schools in California admits freshmen and seven of the separate professional schools in New York admit freshmen. In the case of Wisconsin two sets of figures are given. In one the county teachers colleges are not considered and in the other the county teachers colleges are considered.

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Examination of these figures would indicate that Wisconsin is well served by public collegiate type institutions when compared with other states in the nation.

It must be recognized that figures such as these tell only part of the story. The distribution of the institutions within the state in relationship both to geography and population is of course very important. The over-all figures give no indication as to how well the institutions are distributed either in Wisconsin or the other states. Personal knowledge of Wisconsin and some of the other states indicate that the distribution in Wisconsin is very good.

In Wisconsin the vocational, technical, and semi-professional programs of public institutions are carried by the vocational schools. In many other states these programs are carried by the junior colleges. The data for Wisconsin does not include the vocational schools; consequently, educational opportunities in Wisconsin actually are better than the figures in Table II indicate.

Another factor which must be considered in evaluating the data in Table II is that of the proportion of the collegiate students in public and private institutions. Table III gives the pertinent data on this point. Of the North Central states, Michigan has the smallest proportion of collegiate students in private institutions. Minnesota and Wisconsin have roughly the same proportion in private institutions. The other states have higher proportions in private institutions.

TABLE I

NUMBERS OF VARIOUS TYPES OF PUBLIC COLLEGES

State	Type of Institutional Unit						
	Total	Sep. Prof.*	State Univ.	State Univ. & Land Grant	Land Grant	4 Year Pub. Col.	2 Year Pub. Col.
Illinois	20	1	1	1		5	12
Indiana	20	1	1	1		2	15
Iowa	19		1		1	1	16
Michigan	23		2	1		6	14
Minnesota	16			1		6	9
Ohio	9		3	1		5	
WISCONSIN	20 (22)**			1		10	8 1 (22)
California	85	4***	1	1	1	15	63
Kansas	21		1	1		5	14
Kentucky	8		1	1	1	4	1
Missouri	14			1	1	6	6
Nebraska	10			1		5	4
New York	50	10****				16	24
Oregon	9	1	1	1		4	2
Pennsylvania	31			1		14	16
Texas	50	1	4	1	1	12	31

* All post-bachelor's degree institutions except where noted.

** Wisconsin has 22 county teachers colleges in addition to the other institutions listed.

*** One accepts freshmen.

**** Seven accept freshmen.

Martorana, S.V. and Hollis, E.V. State Boards Responsible for Higher Education. Wash.: U.S. Gov't. Printing Office, 1960. (U.S. Dept. of HE&W Circ. No. 619)

TABLE II

NUMBERS OF COLLEGIATE INSTITUTIONS (PUBLIC)
RELATED TO AREA IN SQUARE MILES AND POPULATION OF THE STATE

State	Area in Square Miles			Population by 1000		
	Total	Per 4 yr. School	Per 2 & 4 yr. School	Total	Per 4 yr. School	Per 2 & 4 yr. School
Illinois	56,665	8,095	2,982	9,982	1,426	525
Indiana	36,354	9,088	1,913	4,637	1,159	244
Iowa	56,147	18,718	2,955	2,736	912	144
Michigan	57,980	6,442	2,521	7,793	866	339
Minnesota	84,682	12,098	5,293	3,393	485	212
Ohio	41,040	4,560	4,560	9,636	1,071	1,071
WISCONSIN	56,066	5,097	2,803 335*	3,926	357	196 93*
California	158,297	8,331	1,930	15,537	818	189
Kansas	82,158	11,737	3,912	2,161	309	103
Kentucky	40,598	5,799	5,075	3,012	430	377
Missouri	69,420	8,677	4,959	4,307	538	308
Nebraska	77,520	12,920	7,752	1,399	233	140
New York	49,204	2,139	1,047	15,597	678	332
Oregon	96,699	16,116	12,087	1,756	293	219
Pennsylvania	45,126	3,008	1,455	11,218	747	362
Texas	265,846	14,772	5,426	9,494	527	174

* County teachers colleges added

Populations of states are the preliminary figures of the 1960 census.

TABLE III

DISTRIBUTION OF 1958 FALL COLLEGIATE ENROLLMENTS
IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS

State	Collegiate Enrollments			
	Private	Public	Total	% of Total in Private School
Illinois	87,235	72,168	159,403	54.7
Indiana	34,228	51,662	85,890	39.8
Iowa	21,260	26,415	47,675	44.5
Michigan	32,306	112,426	144,732	22.0
Minnesota	20,190	38,531	58,721	34.4
Ohio	63,685	76,887	140,572	45.3
WISCONSIN	20,451	40,446	60,897	33.5
California	66,745	238,486	305,231	21.8
Kansas	8,541	36,830	45,371	18.8
Kentucky	15,317	26,914	42,231	36.2
Missouri	30,068	29,788	59,856	50.2
Nebraska	8,119	18,950	27,069	30.0
New York	201,804	121,118	322,922	62.5
Oregon	9,169	22,965	32,134	28.9
Pennsylvania	130,458	35,272	165,730	78.9
Texas	47,062	117,903	164,965	28.5

The American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, Home State and Migration of American College Students, Fall 1958. March, 1959.